

ORDINANCE NO. 024-156

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING A
MEMORANDUM OF
UNDERSTANDING WITH THE
DEPAUL UNIVERSITY DREIHAUS
COLLEGE OF BUSINESS FOR TWO
PILOT PROGRAMS TO SUPPORT
THE CHICAGO TRANSIT
AUTHORITY'S DISADVANTAGED
BUSINESS ENTERPRISE
PROGRAM AND THE RED LINE
EXTENSION TRANSIT
SUPPORTIVE DEVELOPMENT
PLAN

WHEREAS, The Chicago Transit Authority ("Authority") operates a public transportation system in the Chicago metropolitan area and is undertaking a project to extend the Red Line from the existing 95th/Dan Ryan terminal to 130th Street and add four new stations, also known as the Red Line Extension (RLE) Project; and

WHEREAS, The Authority entered into a grant agreement with the Federal Transit Administration ("FTA") under the FY 2019 Pilot Program for Transit-Oriented Development Planning (TOD) to conduct the RLE Transit-Supportive Development (TSD) Comprehensive Plan; and

WHEREAS, The Authority entered into an intergovernmental agreement with the City of Chicago through its Department of Planning and Development (DPD) to support the RLE TSD Plan, per Ordinance No. 020-74; and

WHEREAS, The DePaul University Driehaus College of Business ("DePaul") and the Authority share an interest in promoting diversity, equity, and inclusion in the City of Chicago and surrounding communities; and

WHEREAS, The Authority's Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) Program seeks to create a level playing field on which DBE firms can compete fairly for government contracts and to help eliminate barriers to participation of DBE firms for government contracts; and

WHEREAS, The Authority established the Building Small Business (BSB) program as a pilot through the Red and Purple Modernization (RPM) Phase I Project and as a permanent program in July 2022 to assist small businesses in gaining access to working capital, technical and back office support, and procurement assistance; and

WHEREAS, The Authority has been a leader in the transit industry in providing assistance to small businesses to promote and maximize their growth; and

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WHEREAS, DePaul and the Authority wish to collaborate to establish two pilot projects where certain students enrolled in DePaul's undergraduate and graduate business programs, under the supervision of faculty members, would have the opportunity through their enrollment in certain courses to offer recommendations to select DBE firms that the Authority refers to DePaul as well as offer proposals to the Authority on how the RLE Project could help improve the Michigan Avenue area to support the RLE TSD Plan; and

WHEREAS, The parties wish to clarify the terms of the pilot programs and the parties' obligations through a memorandum of understanding ("MOU"); and

WHEREAS, In the first pilot, the Authority will identify and evaluate DBE firms for referral to DePaul and teams of undergraduate students will work with the selected firms and provide recommendations based on defined business objectives; and

WHEREAS, In the second pilot, teams of graduate students will evaluate how the RLE Project could help improve the Michigan Avenue area to support the Authority's RLE TSD Plan; and

WHEREAS, The MOU has a term of eighteen (18) months but permits either party to terminate the agreement with thirty (30) days' notice; now, therefore:

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CHICAGO TRANSIT BOARD
OF THE CHICAGO TRANSIT AUTHORITY:

SECTION 1. The Chairman of the Chicago Transit Board, or designee, is authorized to enter into a memorandum of understanding with the DePaul University Driehaus College of Business for two pilot programs which has a term of eighteen (18) months through July 1, 2026, permits either party to terminate the agreement with thirty (30) days' notice, and contains such other terms as are substantially in conformance with the Memorandum of Understanding attached as Exhibit A hereto.

SECTION 2. The Chairman, or designee, is further authorized to take such actions and execute such documents as may be necessary to implement the objectives of this ordinance.

SECTION 3. This ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage.

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APPROVED:

Chairman

December 11, 2024

PASSED:

Secretary

December 11, 2024